

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

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**CRIMINAL NO: 09-319**

**v.**

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**SECTION: "L"**

**ENRICO BRUNO**

aka "Ricky"

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**VIOLATIONS:**

**21 U.S.C. § 846**

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**21 U.S.C. § 841 (a)(1)**

**21 U.S.C. § 841 (b)(1)(B) and (C)**

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**18 U.S.C. § 922 (g) (1)**

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**FACTUAL BASIS**

Should this matter proceed to trial, the United States of America will prove beyond a reasonable doubt, through credible testimony and reliable evidence, the following facts:

The Drug Enforcement Administration in connection with the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office began investigating Enrico "Ricky" Bruno in early 2009 in connection with his drug activities. In February 2009, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) New Orleans Field Division HIDTA Group 11 Agents and Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office (JPSO) Narcotics Agents interviewed a Confidential Source (CS1) relative to the suspected drug trafficking activities of Enrico BRUNO. CS1 has been purchasing ounce quantities of cocaine from another unnamed individual. CS1 believed that the unnamed individual was obtaining the cocaine from BRUNO.

On February 18, 2009, CS1 obtained a half ounce of cocaine from an unnamed individual. This purchase tested positive for cocaine and weighed approximately 14 grams. The cocaine was vacuum sealed in a plastic bag.

On April 9, 2009, CS1 purchased 2 ounces of suspected cocaine from the unnamed individual for \$1500. The two ounces of cocaine were also vacuum sealed in a plastic bag. The DEA South Central Laboratory tested the substance which tested positive for cocaine and had a net weight of 55 grams. Later in the surveillance, agents observed this same individual vehicle parked in the driveway of 516 North Cumberland Street, Metairie, LA ( the home of Enrico BRUNO).

On April 28, 2009, CS1 ordered 6 ounces of cocaine from the unnamed individual via telephone. CS1 had several telephonic conversations with the unnamed individual concerning this 6 ounce cocaine transaction which were recorded. During one of these phone calls, CS1 asks the unnamed individual "if Ricky has that much". The unnamed individual immediately hangs up and then calls the CS back angrily telling him "do not use that man's name on the phone." During surveillance of the unnamed individual, agents observed the unnamed individual park his vehicle in front of 516 North Cumberland Street, Metairie, LA, and walk under the carport area of the residence. A short time later, agents observed the unnamed individual exit the carport area of 516 North Cumberland Street, enter his vehicle, and depart the area. Agents followed the unnamed individual a short distance and then conducted a traffic stop on the unnamed individual. During a search of the unnamed individual's vehicle, agents discovered approximately 5 ounces of cocaine in the center console area of the vehicle. The 5 ounces of cocaine was also vacuum sealed in a plastic bag. This amount tested positive for cocaine and weighed approximately 124 grams.

The cocaine hydrochloride purchased on February 18, April 9, and April 28, 2009 by CS1 was supplied by Enrico "Ricky" BRUNO.

Based upon the two undercover purchases and the traffic stop, a state search warrant was obtained on April 28, 2009 for the residence at 516 North Cumberland Street in Metairie, LA. During the warrant, agents discovered a firearm, steroids, vacuum sealers, plastic bags, and \$6,000.00. Specifically, the firearm found at the residence was a Glock, Model 27, .40 caliber, Serial # FNT043. The magazine was found under the bed and the firearm was found in the closet in BRUNO's bedroom. Following his arrest, BRUNO admitted to J.P. agents that the firearm was bought by his mother, Laureen Bruno, for him, because he could not purchase a firearm as a convicted felon.

In May 2009, agents interviewed another Confidential Source (CS2) regarding the drug trafficking activities of Enrico BRUNO. CS2 stated that he/she had known BRUNO for 1 month. CS2 learned that BRUNO was involved in the large scale distribution of cocaine in the New Orleans area. In later conversations, BRUNO wanted to know if CS2 wanted to make some extra money by traveling to Houston to pick up drugs for BRUNO. BRUNO stated that he would have a false compartment installed in CS2's vehicle to facilitate the transportation of these drugs.

On May 19, 2009, agents conducted surveillance during a meeting between CS2 and BRUNO. During this meeting, CS2 provided CS2's vehicle to BRUNO believing that a hidden compartment would be installed in his/her vehicle to facilitate the transportation of drugs for BRUNO. On June 19, 2009, agents conducted surveillance at 516 North Cumberland Street, Metairie, LA, during a meeting between CS2 and BRUNO. During this meeting, CS2 picked up CS2's vehicle and was told by BRUNO where the hidden compartment was and how to open the

compartment. An audio recording of this CS2 meeting was made. After the meeting, agents met with CS2 and took photographs of the hidden compartment located in the front passenger side airbag area of CS2's vehicle. At a later time, agents recorded a video of the hidden compartment in CS2's vehicle. BRUNO installed this compartment in CS2's vehicle so that CS2 could make a "drug run" from Houston to New Orleans, but this never materialized.

On August 20, 2009, CS2 met with agents at a neutral location. Agents followed CS2 to 516 North Cumberland Street, Metairie, LA, and observed CS2 walk under the carport area of the residence. During the surveillance, agents observed BRUNO exit the residence and enter into the front passenger seat of the CS vehicle while CS2 got in the drivers seat of the CS vehicle where he placed the cocaine in the vehicle's hidden compartment. An audio and video recording was made of this CS meeting. Analysis by the DEA South Central Laboratory discovered the substance was approximately 27.3 grams of cocaine hydrochloride with a cocaine purity of 28.6%.

On August 27, 2009, a second purchase from BRUNO was arranged. Agents followed CS2 to 516 North Cumberland Street, Metairie, LA, and observed CS2 walk under the carport area of the residence. An audio and video recording of this CS meeting was made. CS2 stated BRUNO again exited the residence, entered CS2's vehicle on the passenger side, and placed the 2 ounces of cocaine in a vacuum sealed bag in the hidden compartment in CS2's vehicle. After the meeting, agents then retrieved the suspected 2 ounces of cocaine from the hidden compartment of CS2's vehicle. The 2 ounces were field tested with a positive result for cocaine.

On September 15, 2009, CS2 again arranged a purchase of 2 ounces of cocaine from BRUNO. Agents followed CS2 to 516 North Cumberland Street, Metairie, LA, and observed CS2 walk under the carport area of the residence. An audio recording of this CS meeting was made.

After the meeting, agents then retrieved the suspected 2 ounces of cocaine from the hidden compartment of CS2's vehicle. The 2 ounces were field tested with a positive result for cocaine.

On September 24, 2009, a fourth controlled purchase was made by CS2. This controlled purchase tested positive for the presence of cocaine and weighed approximately 40 grams. This meeting was recorded via audio and video. Following this purchase, a federal search warrant was executed. Six ounces of cocaine and a handgun were discovered in the house during the search. The cocaine was discovered behind the sheet rock in the bathroom. The firearm, a Smith and Wesson, 9 mm, Model 908, Serial number TDP 7656, was also discovered in a clothes hamper in the bathroom.

BRUNO also acknowledges that he was convicted in Case No. 91-0390 in the Eastern District of Louisiana for Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine Hydrochloride and sentenced to 21 months imprisonment and three years supervised release in February 1992.

The defendant Enrico Bruno and the Government agree that for purposes of this factual basis and plea agreement, BRUNO distributed at least 500 grams but less than 2 kilograms of cocaine hydrochloride.

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Date

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PROVINO MOSCA, ESQ.  
Counsel For Defendant  
LA Bar Roll No.

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Date

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ENRICO "RICKY" BRUNO  
Defendant

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Date